

Right to free and compulsory education

2774. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether every child has a fundamental right to free and compulsory education;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not imparting free and quality education to every child;
- (c) the total number of children of 6—14 years of age who are still illiterate, State-wise; and
- (d) the action proposed to be taken by literate them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) Consequent upon enactment of the Constitution (Eighty-sixth Amendment) Act, 2002, Article 21-A has been inserted in the Constitution, which makes education a Fundamental Right for children in the age group of 6—14 years by providing that "*the State shall provide free and compulsory education to all children of the age of six to fourteen years in such manner as the State may, by law, determine*". Accordingly, a draft Model Right to Education Bill, spelling out broad parameters and features for achieving the Constitutional mandate of free and compulsory education was drafted and circulated as framework to the States/UTs to seek their comments thereon.

(c) The number of out of school children as per the SRI-IMRB National Survey, 2005 was 1.34 crores in the age group 6-14 years which has now reduced to 70.56 lakhs on 31st March, 2006, as per State/UT-wise details in Statement (See below).

(d) The objectives of universalization of elementary education are being addressed through the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme, wherein focus is being provided to States & districts with the largest number of out of school children.

Statement

State-wise out of school children as per SRI-IMRB survey, 2005 and as reported by the States/UTs on 31 March, 2006

Sl.	Name of the States	Number of out of school children (6-14 years) as per the survey	Number of out of school children (6-14 years) as per State/UT reports as on 31.3.2006
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman & Nicobar	165	302
2.	Andhra Pradesh	542,665	359829
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	23,036	38079
4.	Assam	536,220	375820
5.	Bihar	3,176,624	2315362
6.	Chandigarh	3,086	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	254,736	168435
8.	Daman & Diu	6,134	147
9.	Delhi	84,424	85402
10.	Dadra Nagar & Haveli	0	0
11.	Goa	1,155	0
12.	Gujarat	380,444	288850
13.	Haryana	174,040	185823
14.	Himachal Pradesh	4,942	4967
15.	Jharkhand	620,945	366498
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	4,777	112396
17.	Karnataka	119,517	160513
18.	Kerala	23,242	18398
19.	Lakshadweep	1,104	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1,085,096	472242
21.	Maharashtra	529,295	151083
22.	Manipur	67,515	69005
23.	Meghalaya	22,132	109636
24.	Mizoram	1,558	4305
25.	Nagaland	32,406	43854
26.	Orissa	332,615	603261
27.	Pondicherry	583	1724

1	2	3	4
28.	Punjab	108,754	79994
29.	Rajasthan	795,089	134173
30.	Sikkim	3,803	6300
31.	Tamil Nadu	193,418	108227
32.	Tripura	5,121	17305
33.	Uttar Pradesh	2,995,208	104087
34.	Uttaranchal	116,680	5612
35.	West Bengal	1,213,205	664448
All India		13,459,734	7056077

Students learning Urdu language

2775. SHRI MOTIUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of students learning Urdu Language in the country as on date, State-wise;
- (b) whether there is shortage of Urdu teachers and Urdu books;
- (c) if so, the steps taken to appoint more Urdu teachers and to make Urdu books available; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken for the growth of Urdu language?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The Ministry of HRD does not maintain centralized data on students learning Urdu Language.

- (b) The Ministry does not maintain centralized data on persons who teach Urdu or Urdu Language Teachers appointed by the State Governments. As per NCERT, there is no shortage of Urdu text books.
- (c) The Ministry of HRD implements a scheme called 'Appointment of Language Teachers' under which 100% central assistance is given to State